

Multi-drive carrier

Abstract

A rack-mounted disk drive enclosure has a plurality of frames, each capable of being individually pulled out of the enclosure from the front. Each frame is L shaped and has a vertical portion that is more or less planar as well as a horizontal portion carrying circuitry, for example in a printed circuit board. Each frame carries a plurality of disk drives, each having at least one platter spinning parallel with the vertical portion of the frame. Each drive is disposed with its connector pointing downward, toward the printed circuit board and plugged thereinto. At the rear of the frame, a connector connects to a centerplane. Concentrator logic is placed on the printed circuit board of the frame, as are LEDs or other indicators permitting an indication of which drive (if any) needs to be replaced. In this way, it is possible to remove more than one drive, and let less than all of the drives, at a time, from the enclosure, while other drives can remain in service.